

US Appl. No. 10/622,237

Docket No. 2873-US-CNT

3. Remarks

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Claims 18 and 20-23 are pending with claim 18 being in independent form. Claims 1-17 and 19 have been previously cancelled.

35 U.S.C. §102

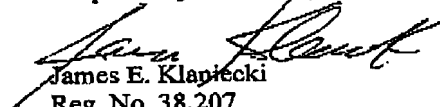
The Examiner has maintained his rejection of claims 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e1) and (e2) as assertedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Appln. Pub. No. 2002/0198147 and USPN 6,642,360, respectively. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner notes that the Declaration previously submitted by Applicants sufficiently describes SEQ ID NO:2 and 4, but is silent with regard to antibodies. The Examiner also notes that the '147 application and the '360 patent teach antibodies against PRO355 and therefore anticipate the claimed invention. The Examiner states that "had the declaration contemplated the claimed antibodies, then the declaration would have been sufficient to overcome the rejections."

Applicants are investigating this issue and are seeking to prepare a new Declaration to accommodate the Examiner's concerns.

If any outstanding issues remain that may be easily reconciled, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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